All Together Now:
Collaborations in
Poetry Writing and Recitation

If you wish, use the following poetry templates
to help with writing your own poems.

Template:

__________________________________________________________________________
(titl)

“My stomach’s full of _____________________________!”
(an object, word to rhyme with the last word in line 3)

Lamented _____________________________.
(a name)

Her mother sighed, “_____________________________”.
(rhymes with line 1)

You ate _____________________________!
(rhymes with the name)

Example:

My Stomach’s Full of Elephants!

“My stomach’s full of elephants!”
Lamented Kathy Strunk.
Her mother sighed, “You have no sense.
You ate your father’s trunk!”

©NEH 2001. Permission is granted to educators to reproduce this worksheet for classroom use.
**Template:**

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

(title)

The Goops they ___________________________________________________________,

And the Goops they ______________________________________________________;

They ________________________________________________________________.

(rhymes with line 1)

Oh, they ______________________________________________________________!

(rhymes with line 2)

The Goops _____________________________________________________________,

And _________________________________________________________________.

(rhymes with “you”)

And that is why I’m glad that I

Am not a Goop — are you?

**Example:**

**The Goops at the Museum**

The Goops they touch the artwork,
And the Goops they chew their gum;
They go completely berserk.
Oh, they scream and run!
The Goops take off their shoes
And leap like kangaroos.
And that is why I’m glad that I
Am not a Goop — are you?

©NEH 2001. Permission is granted to educators to reproduce this worksheet for classroom use.
Template:

When I grow up, I’m going to be a _________________________________,
And _________________________________.

Lines can be realistic:

When I grow up, I’m going to be a doctor,
And save lives every day.

Or, lines can be fantastical:

When I grow up, I’m going to be a jet plane,
And fly to Hawaii whenever I want.
Template:

________________________________________________________________________________________

(title)

What a __________________________________________,

(noun,such as “night” or “trip”)

Oh what a __________________________________________.

(same as line 1)

My __________________________________________,

(rhymes with line 1)

And now my ______________________ will not ______________________.

(rhymes with line 1)

I’m ______________________ years old

And ______________________ing ______________________,

(rhymes with line 1)

Oh what a ______________________, Oh what a ______________________.

(same as line 1)

(same as line 1)

Example:

What a Night

What a night,
Oh what a night.
My left hand forgot my right.
My only crayons were black and white
My bike lost its front headlight.
My bedroom was a hideous sight.
And now my crayons will not write.
I’m seven years old
And feeling fright!
Oh what a night, Oh what a night.

http://edsitement.neh.gov